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PREPARED BY: Jeanne Glenn
DATE PREPARED: February 10, 2012
PHONE: 471-0056

LB 391

Revision: 02

FISCAL NOTE

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

Revised based upon amendments adopted.

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES *				
	FY 2012-13		FY 2013-14	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS				

*Does not include any impact on political subdivisions. See narrative for political subdivision estimates.

LB 391 would create the Nebraska Invasive Species Council. The Council, including representative of the Department of Agriculture, the Game and Parks Commission and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, would meet to make recommendations, develop a statewide adaptive plan, serve as a forum for discussion, assist with public outreach and provide information to the Legislature. Because LB 391 does not specify that a particular state agency will house the council or provide research and administrative support to the council, it is estimated that the only cost to state agencies would be staff time to participate on the council.

Amendments adopted to LB 391 would authorize the Game and Parks Commission to develop rules and regulations regarding the inspection, impoundment and decontamination of conveyances capable of introducing and transporting aquatic invasive species and the identification of such species. The Game and Parks Commission states that in the near term, existing staffing and budgetary resources would be used to carry out these provisions, but if infestations are identified and treatment options developed, it may be necessary to reassess agency funding requirements.

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LEGISLATIVE FISCAL

LB⁽¹⁾ AM1928 **FISCAL NOTE**
LB391

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: ⁽²⁾

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Prepared by: ⁽³⁾ Patrick H. Cole

Date Prepared: ⁽⁴⁾ February 9, 2012

Phone: ⁽⁵⁾ 402-471-5523

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	<u>FY 2012-2013</u>		<u>FY 2013-2014</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
CASH FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
FEDERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
OTHER FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL FUNDS	=====	=====	=====	=====

Return by date specified or 72 hours prior to public hearing, whichever is earlier.

Explanation of Estimate:

The proposed legislation creates and defines the powers and duties of the Nebraska Invasive Species Council. The purpose of the Council is to develop and periodically update a statewide adaptive management plan for invasive species in the state. Invasive species are defined as aquatic or terrestrial organisms not native to the region that cause economic or biological harm and are capable of spreading to new areas, but does not include livestock, honey bees, intentionally planted agronomic crops or nonnative organisms that do not cause economic or biological harm.

The Game and Parks Commission will have one designated representative appointed to the Council. No specific number of meetings or locations of meetings are outlined for the Council. Depending upon the number and location of meetings, the agency may have an increase in travel related expenses. The duties to be undertaken would replace or augment current coordination efforts taking place so any increased travel expenses are thought to be minimal.

Additionally, as amended the Commission is charged with promulgating rules and regulations that would provide for the inspection, impoundment and decontamination of conveyances capable of introducing and transporting aquatic invasive species, as well as the identification of said species. Aquatic invasive species are defined as being those exotic or nonnative aquatic organisms, identified by the Commission, that pose a significant threat to the aquatic resources, water supplies, or water infrastructure of this state.

MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u>		<u>2012-2013 EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>2013-2014 EXPENDITURES</u>
	<u>12-13</u>	<u>13-14</u>		
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Benefits.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Travel.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital outlay.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Aid.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital improvements.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL.....	_____	_____	_____	_____

LB⁽¹⁾ AM1928
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The amended legislation leaves much of the detail of addressing aquatic invasive species up to rules and regulations to be promulgated by the Commission. Until the rules and regulations are adopted potential fiscal impacts are relatively unknown at this time. The Commission will rely on existing resources until such time as the level of infestation and treatment options are more readily assessed. Education and outreach efforts will be implemented within the limits of existing resources and augmented by supplemental grants and partnerships.

Any proposed management strategies developed by the Invasive Species Council that would impact lands owned or controlled by the Commission could result in increased expenditures. Since these potential impacts are unknown, no fiscal impact will be estimated for this bill.